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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,754	11/18/2003	Anne Vandette Reynolds	2742-1A	5270
7590	09/15/2004		EXAMINER	
Eric Fincham 316 Knowlton Road Lac Brome, QC J0E 1V0 CANADA			SZUMNY, JONATHON A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3632	

DATE MAILED: 09/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/715,754	REYNOLDS ET AL.
	Examiner Jon A Szumny	Art Unit 3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 August 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7 and 10-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4-7 and 12-15 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3, 10 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

This is the second office action for application number 10/715,754, Hands-Free Stylist Stand, filed on November 18, 2003.

***Election/Restrictions***

Claims 4-7 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Newly submitted claims 12-15 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Claims 12-15 recite subject matter the same as that of claims 4-7.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 12-15 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

***Claim Objections***

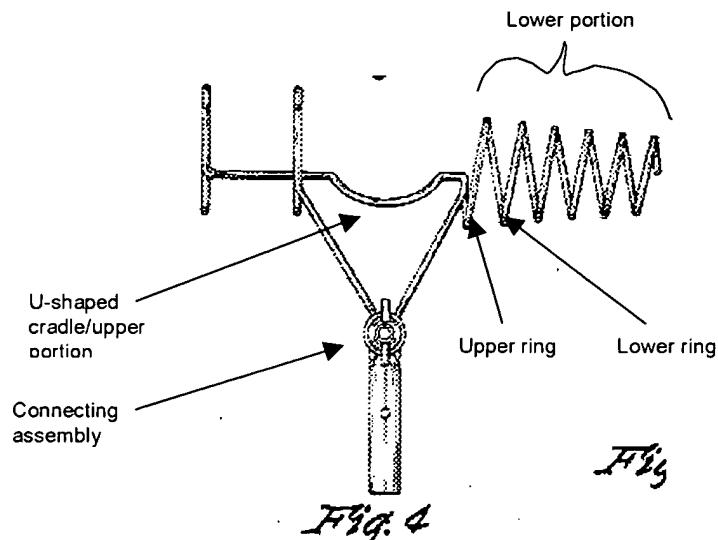
Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In line 1, "rod-like" should be --rod-- so as not to cause confusion about what "-like" is meant to encompass.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

Claims 1-3, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent number Des. 222,964 to Woodbury in view of U.S. Patent number 6,409,131 to Bentley et al.



Woodbury '964 discloses an assembly (above) comprising a cradle (above) having a lower portion (above) and an upper portion (above), the lower portion having an upper ring and a lower ring wherein the upper ring is larger than the lower ring; a mounting means (above), and a connecting assembly (above) between the mounting means and the cradle that permits movement of the cradle in at least one plane; wherein the upper portion of the cradle is u-shaped, wherein the cradle is formed of rod-like members. However, Woodbury '964 fails to specifically teach the connecting

assembly to permit movement of the cradle in at least two/three mutually perpendicular planes. Nevertheless, Bentley et al. '131 teaches an assembly (figure 2) including a cradle (56), a mounting means (16) and a connecting assembly comprising a gooseneck (52,54) that allows movement of the cradle in at least two/three mutually perpendicular planes. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have replaced the connecting assembly of Woodbury '964 with that of Bentley et al. '131 so as to increase the utility of the assembly by providing for a more adjustable assembly.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed August 9, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 10 and 11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hinchliffe '257 and Ridlen '374 teach various holding assemblies.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jon A Szumny whose telephone number is (703) 306-3403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4.

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The fax phone number for the organization where this application and proceeding are assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.



Jon Szumny  
Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 3600  
Art Unit 3632  
September 12, 2004